

**REMARKS**

Claims 7-11 are pending in this application. Claims 1-6 were canceled in the First Preliminary Amendment.

A Substitute Specification has been submitted. Changes have been made to paragraphs 6, 8, 9 and 13-17. The changes are for consistency and clarity and do not present new matter.

**Conclusion**

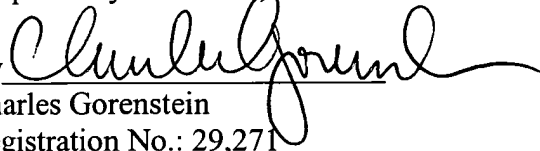
Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Charles Gorenstein (Reg. No. 29,271 ) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: February 1, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Charles Gorenstein

Registration No.: 29,271

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Road

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant